

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a schedule of a plurality of workflow actions at a computer system, ~~within a schedule and having a latency attribute associated therewith,~~ the method comprising:

initiating the a workflow action, from among the plurality of workflow actions, into system memory of the computer system prior to occurrence of an external event on which the workflow action depends, the workflow action configured to idle until the external event occurs, the workflow action including a latency attribute, the latency attribute representing an estimated wait time indicating how long the workflow action is expected to idle waiting for the external event to occur;

accessing a latency threshold, the latency threshold defining a maximum amount of time the computer system is to allow a workflow action to remain idle in system memory waiting for an external event to occur;

comparing the latency attribute that is associated with the workflow action with a to the latency threshold; and

determining that the estimated wait time for the workflow action exceeds the maximum amount of time the computer system is to allow a workflow action to remain idle in system memory waiting for an external event to occur based on the comparison;

in response to the determination, freeing up the memory allocated to the schedule for use by other workflow actions, including:

suspending execution of the schedule;

selectively storing data associated with [[a]] the schedule in a storage medium based on the latency comparison; and

selectively de-allocating system memory allocated to schedule after suspending execution of the schedule.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising establishing a proxy with the naming service associated with the schedule to createing a[[n]] corresponding

association between the stored data and a ~~signal~~the occurrence of the external event.

Claims 3 and 4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[3]]~~2, further comprising:
detecting the occurrence of the external event subsequent to selectively storing data associated with the schedule;
reading the selectively stored data out of the storage medium in response to detecting the occurrence of the external event;
restoring the selectively stored data into system memory in response to detecting the occurrence of the external event; and
selectively resuming execution of the schedule based on the ~~signal~~external event.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[4]]~~5, further comprising ~~selectively allocating computer system resources~~system memory for execution of the schedule ~~prior to restoring the selectively stored data into system memory based on the signal, and selectively resuming execution of the schedule based on the signal.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the latency attribute is an adjustable~~ing the~~ latency attribute according to a variable.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the variable is related to the actual latency for completion of the workflow action.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data comprises schedule state information.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising adjusting the latency threshold based on a variable.

Claims 11-52. (Cancelled).

53. (New) A computer program product for use at a computer system, the computer program product for implementing a method of processing a schedule of a plurality of workflow actions, the computer program product comprising one or more computer storage media having stored thereon computer-executable instructions that, when executed at a processor, cause the computer system to perform the method, including the following:

- initiate a workflow action, from among the plurality of workflow actions, into system memory of the computer system prior to occurrence of an external event on which the workflow action depends, the workflow action configured to idle until the external event occurs, the workflow action including a latency attribute, the latency attribute representing an estimated wait time indicating how long the workflow action is expected to idle waiting for the external event to occur;

- access a latency threshold, the latency threshold defining a maximum amount of time the computer system is to allow a workflow action to remain idle in system memory waiting for an external event to occur;

- comparing the latency attribute to the latency threshold;

- determining that the estimated wait time for the workflow action exceeds the maximum amount of time the computer system is to allow a workflow action to remain idle in system memory waiting for an external event to occur based on the comparison;

- in response to the determination freeing up the memory allocated to the schedule for use by other workflow actions, including:

- suspending execution of the schedule;

- selectively storing data associated with the schedule in a storage medium based on the latency comparison; and

- selectively de-allocating system memory allocated to schedule after suspending execution of the schedule.

54. (New) The computer program product of claim 53, further comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed at a processor, cause the computer system to establish a proxy with the naming service associated with the schedule to create a corresponding association between the stored data and the occurrence of the external event.

55. (New) The computer program product of claim 53, further comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed at a processor, cause the computer system to:

detect the occurrence of the external event subsequent to selectively storing data associated with the schedule;

read the selectively stored data out of the storage medium in response to detecting the occurrence of the external event;

restore the selectively stored data into system memory in response to detecting the occurrence of the external event; and

selectively resume execution of the schedule based on the external event.

56. (New) The computer program product of claim 55, further comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed at a processor, cause the computer system to allocate system memory for execution of the schedule prior to restoring the selectively stored data into system memory.

57. (New) The computer program product of claim 53, wherein the latency attribute is an adjustable latency attribute according to a variable.

58. (New) The computer program product of claim 57, wherein the variable is related to the actual latency for completion of the workflow action.

59. (New) The computer program product of claim 53, wherein the data comprises schedule state information.

60. (New) The computer program product of claim 53, further comprising adjusting the latency threshold based on a variable.